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"What I say unto you I say unto all, WATCH."—Jesus



Why read the Bible?



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Photograph (page 1977), Sea of Galilee at dawn by
Gordon N. Converse

*Focused on "Why read the Bible?"

Founded in 1898 by Mary Baker Eddy,
Author of the Christian Science Textbook,
Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures



Marca Registrada

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Christian Science Sentinel®

Marca Registrada

"What I say unto you I say unto all, WATCH." Jesus

*And Jesus departed from thence,
and came nigh unto the sea of Galilee;
and went up into a mountain, and sat
down there.*

*And great multitudes came unto
him, having with them those that were
lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many
others, and cast them down at Jesus'
feet; and he healed them.*

Matthew 15:29, 30

EDITORIAL

Why read the Bible?

It is a book of Laws to show the right and wrong.

**It is a book of Wisdom, that condemns all folly
and makes the foolish wise.**

It is a book of Truth, that detects all errors.

**It is a book of Life, that shows the way from
everlasting death.**

A cornerstone of world literature is the Holy Bible. Its symbolism, its characters, parables, metaphors, colorful descriptions of historical events, moral and spiritual instruction, as well as its lessons in common sense and practical humanity, have made this book the best-known volume in the Western World.

So often is it alluded to in literature of the past and present that without some knowledge of it one is bound to miss the significance of much that has since been written. The Bible is a must for anyone who desires to have a genuine understanding of western culture, which now influences the whole world.

Even more important, familiarity with the Bible is essential for all who are seeking to understand the meaning of life. Through it we can learn the deep purpose of existence, the true, spiritual nature of creation, and the way to let God's will be done in us so that we attain on earth the peace, satisfaction, and harmony that the Bible itself metaphorically refers to as the kingdom of heaven.

What if the Bible had remained unpublished—or even untranslated from Hebrew and Greek? How immeasurably poorer the world would be. We might never have had the graphic record of Moses, Elijah, the Apostle Paul—not even of Christ Jesus, the Founder of Christianity. Nor would we know and



have learned lessons from such stories as the allegory of the talking serpent, or the accounts of Noah and the ark, David's encounter with Goliath, the feeding of the five thousand, and, above all, of Jesus' crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension. We would not be able to refer to the Ten Commandments, the twenty-third Psalm, or the Sermon on the Mount as guides to moral and social conduct. It's unthinkable!

And Mary Baker Eddy would never have written the Christian Science textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, which has been responsible for not only spiritually enlightening but healing, both physically and mentally, so many millions of people. Nor would she have founded the Church of Christ, Scientist.

Mrs. Eddy was a lifelong student of the Bible. Her knowledge of it was not perfunctory but profound. She had a vital interest in the practical value of Bible teachings to humanity in all ages. Her study of the Bible embraced considerable prayerful research work and much of what sound scholarship had to offer.

The lines printed in heavy type at the head of this editorial are from a newspaper published around 1850. Evidently they appealed to Mrs. Eddy, for she clipped and saved them. They may be one more indication of her lifelong faith in the Bible as a practical help to humanity.

Her discovery of Christian Science sixteen years later was clearly the result of divine inspiration gained through study of the Bible. It was the revelation of the eternal presence and power of God, good, and the absolute authority of His laws of harmony. When understood and recognized as the only fact of real being, these laws of divine Science rule out all belief in the possibility of there being any other laws—laws of matter and of superstitious mortal thought—to oppose goodness and produce discord. And at the same time they annul the consequences of believing in such mortal "laws." As in Bible times, the result of

relying on God is healing. Health is established instead of sickness, harmony instead of discord, sufficiency instead of lack, joy instead of sorrow.

Referring to the illumination of her own thought when she eventually discovered the Science of Truth and was herself healed of dire physical disability, Mrs. Eddy writes, "The miracles recorded in the Bible, which had before seemed to me supernatural, grew divinely natural and apprehensible . . ." ¹ And so they do to anyone who is willing to read the Bible in the light of this revelation of divine Science. Rather than seeming to be haphazard instances of the setting aside of human law, the so-called miracles of prophets and apostles, as well as of Christ Jesus, can be understood as the direct result of the operation of God's law. And it becomes gloriously apparent that the same divine law of harmony is available today to enable us to heal through God's power both sin and sickness, and to resolve harmoniously all problems of mortal existence.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works," ² writes one faithful follower of Christ Jesus.

Millions of people in the world today unite with more millions of the past in their conviction that study of the Bible is of the greatest help in daily life. Far from being outdated, the Bible's message is timeless. The divine law it illustrates, and which Christian Science elucidates, is eternally operative. It teaches us that what are called miracles are the natural consequence of the understanding of this law. We can—and should—expect them now.

NAOMI PRICE

¹ *Retrospection and Introspection*, p. 26; ² II Tim. 3:16, 17.



A book of laws to show the right and wrong

STEVEN LEE FAIR

Imagine that you're trying to build beautiful houses. You have high ideals but little practical understanding of the rules and necessities of construction. Every house you build either falls down of its own accord or is flattened by the first storm. After a while you'd probably either give up or else decide to learn the laws of house construction, no matter what!

Building moral character is somewhat like that. We may have the highest hopes and best intentions, but if we lack the practical understanding of God's moral and spiritual laws, we'll find the going tough. Rather than give up our high ideals, let's determine to learn God's laws, no matter what!

For these laws do exist. They help anyone who understands them, and there's no better place to learn about them than in the Bible. Here's a book filled with moral and spiritual laws that have practical application. Not only do God's laws show us what's right and what's wrong but they also give us the power to *do* the right and avoid the wrong.

Many of the laws of the Bible are well known, even if little practiced or understood. For example, the influence for good of the Ten Commandments and Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount is such that even a partial obedience to them would revolutionize the world. But most people consider obedience to these basic laws well-nigh beyond their ability. Why is this? Many answers could be given, but they all boil down to what St. Paul explained in Romans: "I delight in the law of God after

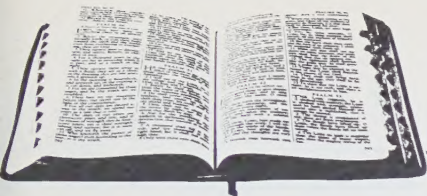
the inward man: but I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.”¹

It seems that while one might sense the goodness of God’s law, the human mind is powerless to assure obedience because of what Paul calls the carnal mind and its law of sin and death. Anyone who has faced temptation or struggled to do right knows exactly what Paul means in this passage. *We* want to be good, but it seems an opposing part of us just doesn’t.

The answer to this weakness of the human mind? To turn to the divine Mind, God, for that spiritual understanding of the laws of the Bible which overcomes the so-called law of sin and death. “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus,”² Paul advises.

Christian Science teaches that the Mind which was in Christ Jesus is Spirit, God, the infinite Mind, the only Mind. This doesn’t mean that Jesus was God, but that Jesus expressed and manifested God with his very being, and this active expression of God is Christ, God’s spiritual idea. The power of Christ is law itself. It’s the truth of man—spiritual and perfect—coming to human consciousness to destroy all false law and testimony that would suggest man is not God’s perfect child. The power of Christ is your law, and my law, of salvation.

The Bible is God’s lawbook. What would we know of God’s government or of Christ without it? The Bible shows us most dramatically how God has revealed Himself and His Christ in the lives of men and women. Each seeker of God—each patriarch, prophet, and disciple—reveals something about God and Christ that we need to know because it is invaluable to our spiritual progress. As Mrs. Eddy explains: “Throughout all generations both before and after the Christian era, the Christ, as the spiritual idea,—the reflection of God,—has come with some measure of power and grace to all prepared to receive Christ,



Truth. Abraham, Jacob, Moses, and the prophets caught glorious glimpses of the Messiah, or Christ, which baptized these seers in the divine nature, the essence of Love.”³

Is it any wonder, then, that we love the Bible, which so closely relates to our spiritual progress? How important that we let Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Elijah and the prophets, help prepare the way for the appearing of Christ in us! How needful that we know and love every word and deed of Jesus in his demonstration of Christ as the Way-shower! And how crucial to our church and the world that we seek and follow the Christly lives of the Master, the apostles, and the early Christian evangelists!

It was through deep love of God, companionship with the Bible figures, and searching the Bible texts, that Mrs. Eddy wrote *Science and Health*. Far from replacing the Bible, the Christian Science textbook is the direct outcome of our Leader's spiritual sense of the Bible. When we see the Bible as our Leader saw it, it will never be dull, obscure, or outdated, but will burst into newness of life as we seek its eternal meanings.

In like manner, deep study of the Bible and its laws illuminates our understanding of *Science and Health* by revealing its essential Christianity. Mrs. Eddy was a Christian in the highest sense of that word, and to understand her and her books we must understand the basic Christian concepts—sin, repentance, baptism, redemption, moral reformation, atonement, eucharist, communion, prayer, Holy Ghost, Christ—to name only a few. Without a spiritual sense of these concepts, we would lose *Christian Science* and be left with cold, abstract metaphysics.

The Bible is a book of laws—the laws of God. If we will seek out these laws and obey them, God's precious love will save us from sin, disease, and death. This is the great purpose of the Bible—that we may know God and His Christ. As Mrs. Eddy explains, “Jesus gave his disciples (students) power over all manner of diseases; and the Bible was written in order that all

peoples, in all ages, should have the same opportunity to become students of the Christ, Truth, and thus become God-endued with power (knowledge of divine law) and with 'signs following.' ”⁴

¹ Rom. 7:22, 23; ² Phil. 2:5; ³ *Science and Health*, p. 333; ⁴ *The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, p. 190.

Wisdom that heals

CORA MASON

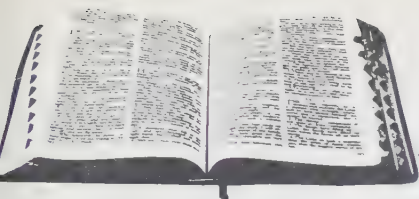
How does the Bible wisdom heal?

As an overseas student in my first year at a British university, I had gone down to London for the Easter vacation and promptly become quite ill. With help from a Christian Science practitioner I had made progress. I was up during the day, but fever still kept me tossing at night. Finally, as termtime approached, I decided I must make a move toward freedom. So there I was, for the last weekend, staying at an inn in the Lake District and out for a walk before dinner. Feeling a bit of new strength, I went farther than I intended.

Fog came down and thickened. I took an uncertain turning, then another, which led me higher among sheep tracks. The dampness turned to an icy drizzle; the light was fading. Fog-bound, soaked and chilled, I was lost in the hills.

*"They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain."*¹

How comforting the Bible can be in a crisis! I clung to those words from Isaiah like a lifeline. This was God's mountain, not



danger's. I was under His jurisdiction. Then came two sentences from the Christian Science textbook, *Science and Health*, giving me precise directions for applying the Bible promise: "When the fear subsides"—Mrs. Eddy's words were experienced and uncompromising—"and the conviction abides that you have broken no law, neither rheumatism, consumption, nor any other disease will ever result from exposure to the weather. In Science this is an established fact which all the evidence before the senses can never overrule."²

So I set to work to subdue fear. This wasn't easy, but I knew I had to. How often Jesus said, "Be not afraid"! And the textbook points to allaying fear as the first step in Christian healing.³

Sheltered in the lee of a boulder, I started praying. The twenty-third Psalm gave me a sense of God's unconditional government and my obedience to it. I got out my pocket copy of *Science and Health*, too, and there was a rugged joy in discovering Mrs. Eddy's words just after the passage I had remembered: "Sickness, sin, and death must at length quail before the divine rights of intelligence . . ." Let *them* do the quailing!

As I prayed, now, I was walking again, trusting the shepherd psalm. What the senses were suggesting, I had begun to see, could be denied entirely on the basis of God's reality. I was not a mass of flesh and bones, prone to sickness and straying, but God's child, intelligent Spirit's creation. I had broken no law of His. Cold or warm, wet or dry, lost or found—these had no weight, really. I was safe *now*, under the law of Love.

It was late when I finally found my way back to the inn, but I was much too happy to care. There was no fever that night nor ever again. In the morning the sun was out, and I tramped all day on the hills, tireless and full of gratitude. Then I took the train back to college, healed.

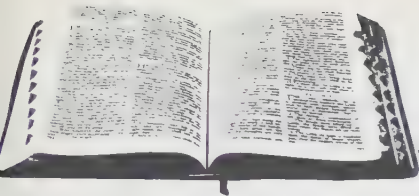
What strikes me now about that incident is not so much the health, safety, and strength restored as the intelligent certainty

of the healing. Many of us have loved the Bible promises for their comfort and hope, but it is wonderful to find that when these same promises are understood scientifically, they heal. Like angels sent to meet our special need, the Scriptures and the Christian Science textbook lead us in the steps of saving prayer. Big mistakes like minor follies—all can be corrected, as we turn to the divine wisdom that heals.

Many times and with many meanings we meet the word “wisdom” in the Bible. One of the humbler meanings is exemplified by the craftsman “in whom the Lord put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, according to all that the Lord had commanded.”⁴ How encouraging to realize that we can all be such craftsmen today in the normal, Christian work of spiritual healing! The Master, Christ Jesus, has shown us what to do. The equipment is here, where it always has been, in the illumined Word of the Bible. *Science and Health* makes the way plain. “It is possible,—” Mrs. Eddy writes, “yea, it is the duty and privilege of every child, man, and woman,—to follow in some degree the example of the Master by the demonstration of Truth and Life, of health and holiness.”⁵

This practical instruction in Christian healing is only possible, of course, because of wisdom in its highest scriptural meaning. Above the craftsman’s skill, above even the crucial discernment between good and evil that Solomon prayed for, the Bible leads us to the wise men’s star, the light that by its very shining erases the pretensions of the dark. This is the truth that Jesus said would make us free—and it does. Paul speaks of it as “Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.”⁶

Surely the lesson of the Bible is that this wisdom is always with us, impelling our slightest effort for good and rewarding it, opening our eyes to where we really are and to what He has made us to be. The life of Jesus himself is the most perfect state-



ment of this divine wisdom. But the whole Bible is alive with it, lifting our sight beyond the senses' view of a material world.

Sometimes it may look as if the Bible wisdom, with its healing disciplines and ultimate vision, is most obscured just when the world needs it most. But aren't the signs truer that point to its persistent piercing of the material fog? As the Bible itself shows, the presence of the living God is always the determining factor. Even a chink of chastened, prayerful thought must let in a ray of the encircling daylight. And as the light is held to—sure as morning—there is a proof of healing for the world.

¹ Isa. 11:9; ² *Science and Health*, p. 384; ³ See *ibid.* 410:29-30; ⁴ Ex. 36:1; ⁵ *Science and Health*, p. 37; ⁶ I Cor. 1:24.

The book that detects and protects

ALAN A. AYLWIN

We know that the Bible is the Word of God, of Truth, because of its effect on people's lives. There is an inherent spiritual dynamism in the Scriptures that sets them apart from all other literature. The great Bible characters were not theorists. They were doers of the Word. In the main they lived what they taught, and the record of their teaching and doing makes the Bible a living, usable guide for us all. Bible study purifies thought, not only by helping us to detect the evil that needs cor-

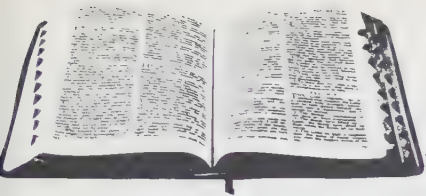
recting but by imparting the spiritual strength to destroy evil—thus protecting us from its harmful effects on health and harmony.

Those who study the Bible in the light of Christian Science may read the same verses a thousand times, but these never become trite or tiresome. This is because the text is imbued with the vitality of Truth, and prayerful study lifts thought to a purifying and protecting awareness of God's love, presence, and power. It turns the searchlight of Truth on the uncorrected errors that plague human life, and destroys them.

To the prophet Jeremiah, God was a living, palpable presence that inspired and sustained him in his long struggle to reform and uplift his people. The inner voice of spiritual perception spoke to him as the voice of God and assured him of God's everywhere-present correction and unsparing love. We read: "Am I a God at hand, saith the Lord, and not a God afar off? Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the Lord. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the Lord."¹

The healing, regenerative sense of God's omnipresence, His allness, appears in various degrees of clarity throughout the Old Testament, and reaches its glorious fullness in the words and works of Christ Jesus and his followers. Mrs. Eddy caught what she called this "prolonged tone," for she writes: "The Scriptures give the keynote of Christian Science from Genesis to Revelation, and this is the prolonged tone: 'For the Lord He is God, and there is *none beside Him*.' And because He is All-in-all, He is in nothing unlike Himself; and nothing that worketh or maketh a lie is in Him, or can be divine consciousness."²

This golden thread that winds its way through the Scriptures is the Christ-idea, the saving Truth, which brings about the new birth spoken of by Jesus. The more we study and ponder the basic truths so beautifully and winningly stated in the Bible, the clearer and purer our thinking becomes, and the more quickly



we detect in ourselves the traits of disposition and character that need correction.

In other words, if we bring to bear on our study of the Bible the spiritual sense that Christian Science imparts—and if we are faithfully obedient to the Bible's behests—events and circumstances will be shaped into pictures of harmony and progress. The lens of spiritual understanding will enable us to see ourselves to be God's perfect expression, living, moving, and having our being in Him. This biblically established fact, clearly realized, floods thought with purifying spiritual light. It uncovers the falsity of a material mind and life separate from God, Spirit—the real Mind and Life of everyone everywhere.

Paul tells us, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."³ Paul's experience can teach us much, because it shows us that Bible people faced the need for self-correction just as we do, and that "through patience and comfort of the scriptures" we may indeed have hope.

On the road to Damascus, the Christ, Truth, reached Paul's thought and changed his entire subsequent experience. He was a keen student of the Hebrew Scriptures, and a man of dedication and courage even before this momentous event. The fine qualities in his thought became the mental door through which Truth reached him, and he at once yielded to the divine will. He saw Bible prophecy regarding the Messiah's coming and mission in an entirely new light. This higher sense then became his guide and mentor, and led him to heights of spiritual vision and demonstration. Through many practical proofs this Christian warrior had become well aware of "the keynote of Christian Science," the great fact that God, Spirit, is All.

In *Science and Health* Mrs. Eddy tells us: "God's being is infinity, freedom, harmony, and boundless bliss. 'Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.' Like the archpriests of yore, man is

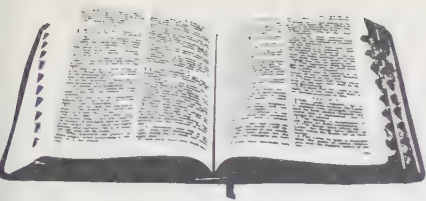
free 'to enter into the holiest,'—the realm of God." ⁴ It is of first importance that we consciously inhabit this realm *now*. If we would detect and destroy evil in thought and experience, we must expose it to the purifying light of Truth. Like Jeremiah we must know our heavenly Father to be "a God at hand," the All of our being—and the more we hold to this true sense, the faster we will grow in spiritual stature, and the freer we will be from the seeming influence of evil.

Where in all literature is this inseparable relationship expressed more beautifully than in the Psalmist's words: "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me." ⁵

The conscious recognition of Truth doesn't blind us to error and its subtle or aggressive suggestions. Nor does it make us reluctant to vigorously realize the spiritual fact that destroys error. Christ Jesus didn't shrink from encounter with evil. He knew it must be faced and denounced for what it is, so he calmly and decisively looked evil in the eye, so to speak, and called it a liar. Jesus' clear understanding that the divine Mind was the source of his every thought and act imparted the needed spiritual intuition to detect and destroy all forms of evil. We can do this, too, in the degree that we study the Gospels and learn of him.

Jesus knew better than anyone else that evil was never created, because the creator of all is God, infinite divine Love, who can know and produce nothing unlike Himself. This position is fully supported by the Bible, for we read in the first chapter of Genesis, "And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good." ⁶

The "prolonged tone" that rings from Genesis to Revelation is



an ever-present defense against all evil. When we are in tune with it, the jarring notes inherent in mortal thought become obvious, and we at once realize and affirm the spiritual facts that correct them. We gratefully recognize that we live in and reflect the goodness of God, that He is our Mind, and that we are embraced in His love.

¹ Jer. 23:23, 24; ² *Miscellaneous Writings*, p. 366; ³ Rom. 15:4; ⁴ *Science and Health*, p. 481; ⁵ Ps. 139:7-10; ⁶ Gen. 1:31.

An open guide to Life

DAVID C. KENNEDY

The Bible is alive with the truth of Life. The Bible's message to mankind sparkles with spiritual vitality, recharging human hope and invigorating those who are receptive with a provable knowledge of what life is and isn't.

What life *isn't* is matter—not even temporarily. The Scriptures uncompromisingly condemn a material view of life as being the opposite of Life, God, and incapable of supplying what the Bible promises—life, love, health, fulfillment: “We are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die . . . The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.”¹

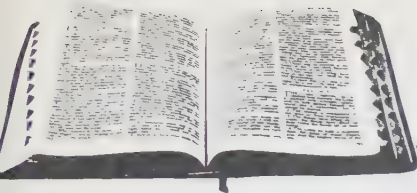
Christian Science reiterates and demonstrates the truth of

Life, showing that even now all being is Spirit, and that what we call matter is no more than a mental misconception, appearing solid. Mortal mind (the suppositional material consciousness) sees its own misconceptions and calls them material substance, law, and action. But material belief isn't substance, and its misconceptions have neither law nor action. With irresistible honesty the Scriptures expose the falsity of material belief and point to the spiritual nature of being. This is the only real foundation on which we can build.

Christ Jesus knew the nature of God, good. He knew, too, that suffering—the tangible effect of material belief, fear, or sin—had no place in God, no reality. Through his clear spiritual understanding, Jesus was able, in countless instances, to immediately destroy mortal belief and its effects and restore harmony: moral and physical soundness, happiness, even life. Jesus expected his followers, too, to heal through an understanding of spiritual truth (see John 14:12). Mrs. Eddy writes, "Let neither fear nor doubt overshadow your clear sense and calm trust, that the recognition of life harmonious—as Life eternally is—can destroy any painful sense of, or belief in, that which Life is not." ²

To gain dominion over the pain, lack, and suffering inherent in a material sense of life and find the harmony of Life, we need to admit into consciousness the substance of Life. Where do we find this substance? In its source—God. God *is* Life. The substance of divine Love is good. The love that reflects Love harbors no tinge of hatred or rebellion but is eternally pure. The substance of Soul is true, needing no façades. The beauty that is of Soul has no ugly side; the strength that is of Soul has no weakness. The substance of Spirit is complete, lacking nothing. Therefore it satisfies.

We gain access to spiritual substance by admitting into consciousness the spiritual ideas of Mind, which are substance. In gaining the true idea of health, we lay hold of the substance of



health. In grasping the true idea of happiness and supply, we actually have their substance and find the tangible evidence at hand. In fact, to the degree that we assimilate the spiritual truth of being, we reflect the substance of Life and rise above the belief in death.

But isn't there often much in our thought that would stifle, delay, or resist our receptivity to Life? In overcoming this resistance, the Bible's spiritually wise guidance is invaluable. Throughout the Bible can be found explicit and implicit thou-shalt-nots—stern, needed guideposts. Probably the most comprehensive compendium of such rules is the Decalogue, or Ten Commandments (see Ex. 20:3-17), which came to us through the inspired thought of Moses. Understandingly obeyed, these rules enable us to put off materialistic ways of thinking and acting that would prevent our deep acquaintance with Life. The Commandments require us to let go of worldliness, greed, hatred, dishonesty, sexual immorality, and the tendency to infringe the rights of others. They also rebuke less obvious evils, such as jealousy of another's success or possessions, disrespect of parents, profanity, fear that God cannot help us, and failure to remember God—our Life.

Obedience to these inspired rules is a protection against the bullying demands of materialism, which claim to act on our behalf but really only cordon us off, for a time, from the realization of Life and its joys. So long as we hate, we lose our grasp on the substance of Love. To the degree that we are selfish or greedy, we fail to perceive the spiritual abundance that flows freely from God to us, through us, and around us. So long as we are immoral, our affections lack the honesty, depth, and constancy of Soul, and we fall short of the substance of joy. The Scriptures could not guide us safely if they did not also steer us away from the wrong way.

On the encouraging side, we find one of the Bible's central

messages. The First Epistle of John capsulizes it: "Beloved, now are we the sons of God."³ We are not actually sinners who have to struggle to win God's favor and escape from sin and death. Man is even now perfect, *loved*—the very image, or manifestation, of Life. Life speaks to each of us: "Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."⁴ Life loves us; we cannot be separated from Life. Man, God's idea, cannot know death. From his exalted standpoint of spiritual understanding, Paul was able to write, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"⁵

The Bible is an honest guide. It can be trusted. Mrs. Eddy writes: "The Scriptures are very sacred. Our aim must be to have them understood spiritually, for only by this understanding can truth be gained." In the next paragraph she continues, "It is this spiritual perception of Scripture, which lifts humanity out of disease and death and inspires faith."⁶

The deep spirituality of the biblical insights is immeasurable. We know its value as we respond to its leadings.

¹ Rom. 8:12, 13, 16; ² *Science and Health*, p. 495; ³ I John 3:2; ⁴ Jer. 31:3; ⁵ I Cor. 15:55; ⁶ *Science and Health*, p. 547.

National Bible Week

Each year the American Bible Society and most of the major religious bodies in the United States cooperate to make Bible Week a significant spiritual event. This issue of the *Christian Science Sentinel* supports this purpose.

The book of Mark—living theater

"There was silence such as I have rarely heard from the capacity audience"

"You cannot listen to it spoken like this and thereafter doubt its living power or its contemporaneous meaning for our lives."

"It is compelling theater that is at the same time non-theatrical."

These are some of the superlative reviews given to the production of "St. Mark's Gospel," which played to sold-out houses in England and which has been touring the United States. A television production is also being planned for the United States.

An outstanding feature of the presentation is that the Gospel is narrated entirely from memory by noted British actor Alec McCowen.

Reports of those who have seen the performance speak of being caught up in the immediacy and sacredness of this ultimate story.

Concordance puzzle

Eleanor Young Clapp

This puzzle is based on a letter by an early Christian that you'll find near the end of the Bible. In it he tells us that if we develop the following qualities, we won't have empty, useless lives. We'll not only understand what Christ Jesus came to teach us, but we'll be effective, fruitful Christians.

Mary Baker Eddy refers to these qualities in the textbook of Christian Science, *Science and Health*. Each quality will fit in one of the numbered rows of blank spaces. Here's what you do to find them. Take the Concordance to *Science and Health* and look up key words from the following quotations. Then fill in the fig.

1. One of the qualities "likened to 'the cattle upon a thousand hills.'"
2. What quality does the "spiritual perception of Scripture" inspire?
3. What quality should protect "nurseries of character"?
4. "A _____ of the Science of being develops the latent abilities and possibilities of man."
5. As evil beliefs disappear, what is one of the qualities along with "humanity, honesty, affection, compassion" that comes to light?
6. What quality "must bring experience"?
7. Referring to the "divinity of the man Jesus," what was it that "animated him"?
8. "Selfishness" needs to give place to what quality?
9. One of the qualities that "have divine authority."

To check your answers, look in the Bible—II Peter 1:5-7.

Do you have questions?

Thomas C. Asher

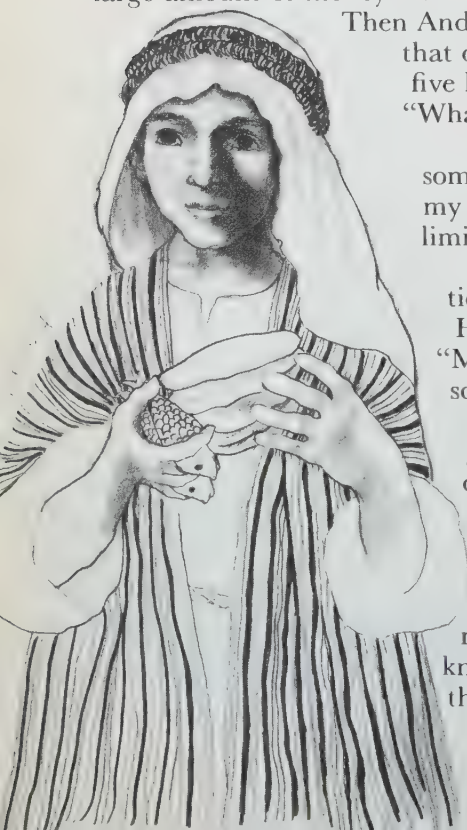
I often think how great it would be to ask Jesus a few questions, face to face. I wouldn't try to stump him as the Pharisees did. I would just ask a few simple questions like the ones the Bible tells us people asked him when he was on earth.

For instance, in the Gospel of John we hear that one time a crowd of people followed Christ Jesus up a mountain where he had gone with his disciples. Jesus asked his disciple Philip where they could buy bread to feed so many people. He was testing Philip to see what he would say. Philip answered that even a large amount of money would buy only a little bread for each.

Then Andrew, another disciple, pointed out that one boy in the crowd had brought five loaves and two fish, but he added, "What are they among so many?"¹

Andrew's question sounds like some of mine. "How can God supply my needs?" "What can I do with my limited intelligence and talents?"

Jesus answered Andrew's question in a way that answers my own. He answered with action. He said, "Make the men sit down." John describes what happened then: "Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would."² Jesus turned to God in gratitude. He did not ask for more bread or fish. He did not acknowledge lack. But by distributing the food he proved that God always



supplies enough for everyone, and all were fed and satisfied.

Jesus' actions provide a complete answer to my question about God and supply. I can turn to God, the source of all good, as Jesus did. I can thank God for the supply already at hand. I can disbelieve evidence that would try to convince me of lack. Then I can act as possessing enough of whatever is necessary—including intelligence and talent. Then surely my needs will all be met, just as those people's were so long ago.

There are other questions you might wish you could ask Jesus. Perhaps your brothers or sisters have made you angry, and you may wonder, "Should I forgive them again?" The disciple Peter once asked Jesus a similar question: "How oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?"³ Jesus' answer was, "Until seventy times seven," an indication of endless forgiveness. Doesn't that also apply to you?

What other questions might you have?

Whatever they may be, you will find answers by studying the Bible, along with *Science and Health* by Mary Baker Eddy.

It's good to ask questions. Mrs. Eddy asks some in her writings as well as answering many. Here's one: "God is Love. Can we ask Him to be more?"⁴ You can answer that one easily! God loves each one of us dearly, and He provides us with an inexhaustible supply both of right ideas and the inspiration to put them to use—everything we may need. God has already answered our questions, and we can find His answers in the Bible.

¹ John 6:9; ² vv. 10, 11; ³ Matt. 18:21, 22; ⁴ *Science and Health*, p. 2.

[Healing experiences in *Sentinel* articles for children as well as adults are carefully verified.]

True worship heals

JOHN PAUL CHAMBERLAIN

True worship, or deep spiritual prayer, includes an unceasing, positive affirmation of divine reality. An effort to meditate on good human thoughts falls short of real worship, which clearly defines the boundary between spirituality and materiality. True worship represents a mental breakthrough, by which we put the fog of materiality behind us for a realization of the perfect presence of God. Mrs. Eddy understood this clearly: "A straight line finds no abiding-place in a curve, and a curve finds no adjustment to a straight line. Similarly, matter has no place in Spirit, and Spirit has no place in matter."¹

Worshiping God brings deep, inner satisfaction. It calms the tumultuous, restless personality that claims to be our own. True worship includes the glowing elements of healing. A feeling of accomplishment pervades one's thoughts, and one realizes he has been in touch with a higher source.

The Bible tells us, "The true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth."² Yet there may come a time when our worship doesn't seem to bring results. We pray long and faithfully over a problem, and it still doesn't yield. At this point discouragement and self-condemnation may set in. We may begin to search our thought, frantically seeking to uncover a hidden fault. If only we can find it! We feel assured that by denying it and affirming the fact of Truth, we will feel the healing power of God's allness.

If errors start flooding in, it's necessary to halt them, as Jesus calmed the sea with the command, "Peace, be still."³ At this point we need to pray deeply to understand how one worships "in spirit and in truth." God blesses this endeavor, and He sends His thoughts to us.

False suggestions come from an illusive origin, called the carnal mind in the New Testament and more often mortal mind in Christian Science. As long as we accept false thoughts as real, they affect our experience. However, when we realize their falsity and seek to destroy them with truth, as Jesus did, they vanish. In their place we affirm the fact that all true thoughts come from the infinite oneness of God, Truth. Harmony then becomes our basis. The fruits of peace expressed in healing naturally follow. Mrs. Eddy states: "We worship spiritually, only as we cease to worship materially. Spiritual devoutness is the soul of Christianity." ⁴

When we search diligently for reasons for a condition of sickness or sin, we begin to lose our grasp on true worship. We are letting personal sense and material thinking interfere. We need to distinguish between material thinking and true divine thoughts. False material thinking includes such elements as selfishness, weariness, egotism, and alienation. Any thought that denies or limits the perfection of God's creation and God's unceasing provision for man is false and unreal. Divine thoughts come from God through the healing Christ—His messenger to us. They are worthwhile and give us a deep, inner feeling of worthiness and security.

True thinking includes a willingness to yield humbly to God's thoughts and accept them. Then we can take the false material beliefs clamoring for our attention and decisively destroy them. Mulling over materialistic notions and pondering them is material worship. This holds nothing for us.

Christ Jesus saw this clearly. The basis of the healings he brought about was his flawless understanding of his oneness with God. Knowing that he reflected God continuously, he destroyed material beliefs of sickness, sin, or death. His only response to devilish, materialistic thinking was, "Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve." ⁵ And the unreal suggestion immediately disappeared. This can be our experience too!

True worship is holy, spiritual rejoicing. It bears generous witness to the good that God constantly showers upon us, effectively destroying beliefs of sin, illness, and other discord. When

confronted by these, we need to take a clear, calm stand for the truth of being.

Insist that God, Mind, alone is the source of your thoughts and your being. Deny the belief of sin or illness; emphatically proclaim its unreality and rejoice in the presence of God's love for you. As you accept His loving thoughts, fear will disappear. Man is the expression of God, and all that you and I can ever really do is to express God's perfection and proclaim its allness. That is the basis of true worship, and it heals.

¹ *Science and Health*, p. 282; ² John 4:23; ³ Mark 4:39; ⁴ *Science and Health*, p. 140; ⁵ Luke 4:8.

The high goal

What is our goal—
to be powerful, famous, rich,
and then lazily to loll at pleasure's ease?
No. Science demands a goal
higher than these.

Is this our goal—
to be happy, honest, and free,
and, trusting God, to be whole each joyfilled day?
No. These are Love's steppingstones
along the way.

Christ is the goal
of our study, our thought, our prayer.
The consummate goal that earned the world's attention
our Master exemplified
by his ascension.

GEORGE R. SAUERS

The key to prayer

GRANT C. BUTLER

Each member of the Christian Science Sunday School class of five seventeen-year-olds said he had faced the same problem: His thoughts began to wander when he attempted to pray. Trivial things got in the way. It seemed almost impossible to focus on the presence of God for any period of time.

As teacher and students discussed the question, they agreed that disciplining thought is more than a matter of human will and effort. There is a key to prayer, a way to commune freely with God through scientifically understanding Him.

The teacher explained how he had solved the problem of daily, disciplined prayer early in his business career. He had resolved to devote a regular period each day to becoming perfectly still and praying. But as soon as he would settle down in his quiet den, he would be tempted to make phone calls, open the window, get a drink of water, rearrange his files, close the window, do anything but be still and pray.

He began a daily study of Mrs. Eddy's writings to find the solution. He learned that all good, spiritually intelligent thoughts come from the divine Mind and that this is the only real Mind there is—that the key to prayer is in accepting this basic truth, which makes us receptive to God's thoughts and silences all other thoughts. He learned that everyone can discipline his consciousness to be quiet by realizing the presence of the one and only Mind and listening for God's thoughts. "Be still, and know that I am God,"¹ we read in Psalms.

The teacher found that once he learned to acknowledge Mind's allness and to know he reflected that one Mind, God, he had no difficulty recognizing and obeying spiritually prompted desires. He could sit quietly, and nothing could interrupt his

prayer. The frequent interruptions stopped. He found himself responding naturally and expectantly to divine Mind as he prayed, obeying Mind, and God's spiritual ideas flowed effortlessly into his consciousness.

Christ Jesus is the prime example of one who learned the value of silencing worldly thoughts and of praying regularly. He began his ministry with forty days of prayer in the wilderness, where he mastered in his own thought the basic beliefs of mortal mind. Through the spiritual power he gained from such prayer he healed human ills, and he told his followers to do the same.

How do we know when we are praying aright? In Exodus we learn that when Moses communed with God through prayer, God said to him, "I will make all my goodness pass before thee."² And when we, too, attain communion with God through prayer, and conscious oneness with the divine Mind, the Father's gentle presence will appear to us also. It may come as a great inner peace or a joy never before experienced. We might hear divine messages in thought as clearly defined as Moses did. But whatever the way God reveals His presence, we will be convinced that we have prayed aright.

Years ago, as the owner of a small business, I found myself with a product for which there seemed to be no market. The item had suddenly become obsolete, and I faced a tremendous loss. As a Christian Scientist, I knew there was an answer and that it would come through prayer.

One morning as I sat quietly praying, having first silenced distracting thoughts by acknowledging the one divine Mind, I attained that perfect peace, that inner stillness and communion which are the essence of prayer. I became conscious that in reality there are no unsolved problems because Mind is all-knowing. Immediately I saw clearly the answer to my business problem: The product should be used in a certain other market. This proved successful beyond all expectations.

Mrs. Eddy writes on page 15 of *Science and Health*: "To enter into the heart of prayer, the door of the erring senses must be closed. Lips must be mute and materialism silent, that man may have audience with Spirit, the divine Principle, Love, which destroys all error."

What does such prayer do for us, then? Above all, it brings us a deeper knowledge of spiritual reality, of God and man, of our perfection as Mind's spiritual reflection. And this knowledge heals every discord.

¹ Ps. 46:10; ² Ex. 33:19.

Finding peace in consciousness

SUSANNE BECKER

Perfect peace can be found within—by anyone. Why? Because in truth there is only one consciousness, one sense of life—the divine; because this divine Mind is All-in-all and man is Mind's perfect expression.

Mrs. Eddy defines God in *Science and Health*: "The great I AM; the all-knowing, all-seeing, all-acting, all-wise, all-loving, and eternal; Principle; Mind; Soul; Spirit; Life; Truth; Love; all substance; intelligence."¹

Since God is All and is good, how and where could evil—in-harmony, fear, hate—creep in? Christian Science answers that evil exists only in the mortal sense of life. It is nothing more than illusion.

Man, being the expression of God, knows what God knows—the perfect, spiritual nature of all being; sees what God sees; reflects Mind's activity, wisdom, and love. To keep these spiritual truths in thought and to live love is to be Christlike and to learn where peace comes from.

But what if we are not conscious of spiritual truth? Well, then, we are living in the bad dream of materiality, and we need to awake by accepting God's thoughts and seeing His goodness, love, perfection. "Love not the world, neither the things that are

in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”² Isn’t John telling us material existence is a false state of consciousness? Neither matter nor evil has any real foundation, place, existence. Only through the supposititious material senses can evil even suggest itself to us. That is the only avenue through which it can claim existence. And these senses are wholly illusory!

Since evil is mental suggestion, let us be spiritually active and exercise dominion over every form of it. When we anchor thought in God, nothing and nobody can harm us even in belief. Those who fear evil don’t realize that they can overcome it in their own thought—and only there—by rejecting it and accepting Truth. One must continually separate, right in his own consciousness, the spiritual ideas of divine Mind from the material perceptions of mortal mind and reject the latter as unreal.

Everything we humanly experience, good or bad, results from our acceptance of either the spiritual truth or the material lie. Mrs. Eddy says: “Watch, and pray daily that evil suggestions, in whatever guise, take no root in your thought nor bear fruit. Ofttimes examine yourselves, and see if there be found anywhere a deterrent of Truth and Love, and ‘hold fast that which is good.’”³ But to reject evil successfully, we must deny mortal mind’s assertion that evil belongs to person. How often we believe in the criticism we hear about another or in the antagonism exhibited toward us. Our very belief in such things shows we think evil is attached to a person. But we can stop believing others are mortals who are thinking evil about us. In order to defend ourselves we can stop keeping “their offenses” in thought. We can recognize evil as an impersonal lie trying to get a hold in our thought and then reject it and be free! As we do, we find this is the easy and only way to deal with every kind of difficulty.

But if we accept evil suggestions, sickness as well as sin, we are allowing evil to control us. How real evil seems when we entertain it, and yet there’s not an iota of truth in it!

The basic approach in destroying evil is to seek stillness and peace by *actively* spiritualizing our consciousness. Don’t ignore evil but deny it, and know that God is All and good, omnipo-

tent, omnipresent, omniscient. See that there is only one Truth, one Principle, one Love and Life. We have a firm foundation in Truth because we are in reality God's perfect ideas, expressing divine Love, living the one Principle, obeying His laws. Dominion is attained as we realize and practice this truth.

For many years I was so often entangled in inharmonies that I longed to find peace. I sought it by trying to slip away from unpleasantness. Then I realized how selfish this was. I understood I had to give a helping hand to *heal* discord—in the church, home, and nation. I learned that a passive attitude toward difficult situations is the consequence of fearing the outcome, while a spiritually active approach shows fearlessness, unselfishness, Christly activity. So I began to approach discord actively, confidently, saying to myself, How can I help to dispel this lying suggestion? I knew I could help only if I was attentively listening to the Christ and not thinking about the material picture. The truths I affirmed were much the same as those I had used before, but now I was practicing Truth, trusting it as All, and trusting it to heal.

The results were wonderful: the healing of many discords and—even more important—the achievement of genuine peace within. “This peace is spiritual; never selfish, stony, nor stormy, but generous, reliable, helpful, and always at hand,”⁴ Mrs. Eddy explains.

It is not enough to affirm spiritual truths and deny evil. We must take a spiritually active approach to difficulties, have faith in divine Truth as the only reality, and trust it to govern. Then we can demonstrate Truth and will find God's unshakable peace coming to light in our own consciousness.

¹ *Science and Health*, p. 587; ² I John 2:15; ³ *The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, pp. 128–129; ⁴ *ibid.*, p. 121.

To unlock the Bible's spiritual meaning

Through the ages men and women have found great comfort and hope in God's goodness by reading the Bible. Statistics indicate that today there are more people reading the Bible than ever before.

Yet for many there is a longing for a better understanding of its spiritual meaning. For these seekers, the *Concordance to the Writings of Mary Baker Eddy* can meet a need.



The *Concordance* will help you find over a thousand places where Mrs. Eddy quotes and explains the Bible in her writings. Two appendices in the Complete *Concordance* list all of these scriptural quotations.

And there's more. Throughout Mrs. Eddy's writings there are biblical overtones. The student can locate these in the main *Concordance* by looking up familiar words or phrases from Bible verses.

Study of these scriptural references can help students gain a fuller, deeper understanding of the Bible's spiritual message. The librarians at your nearby Christian Science Reading Room will be glad to help you in your study. The Reading Room has the books you need.

Miss Frances C. Carlson, Publisher's Agent

One Norway Street, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. 02115

Testimonies of Christian Science Healing

“Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; . . . then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God” (Prov. 2:3, 5). This I have been doing since childhood and must express my gratitude to Christian Science for showing me the way.

I was brought up in a Christian home and was a member of an orthodox Protestant church, but was never quite satisfied with what I had been taught about God and His relationship to man. As a student of philosophy and comparative religion during my college years, I first read *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy along with everything else I could find on these subjects. At first it was just another theory to me, but gradually I found myself reading exclusively the works of Mrs. Eddy and other writings pertaining to Christian Science. I subscribed to the periodicals, and never once doubted that I had finally found the answers to my questions.

With the help of a Christian Science practitioner I had an instantaneous healing of the smoking and drinking habits, and joined The Mother Church and a branch church. I did not have an opportunity to work in the branch church, as my husband and I began a ten-year traveling stint at that time. During these ten years I became very depressed, slept very little, found it impossible to relax or lie down, and was hyperactive most of the time. I had the help of many different practitioners, due to our constant traveling, but my progress was slow. In fact, I quite despaired of my ability to understand the healing power of Truth.

The statements made in these testimonies with regard to healings have been carefully verified. The original testimonies and their respective verifications are on file for reference with The Christian Science Publishing Society. THE EDITORS.

I knew the truth could heal—I had many proofs of this—but I had to learn how to apply it and, just as important, how to yield to its power.

In order to learn this I found I had to give up my most cherished possessions. One was the belief in a mind of my own that was well educated and intelligent, a personal mind that knew how to do many things. I had to acknowledge instead the truth that God is the only Mind, that I have no mind of my own. Divine Mind alone governs. Another was the belief that my husband and I were a team that worked together well but depended on each other, and that he was decidedly the dominating male. This I replaced with a greater understanding of man's true selfhood as God's image, and with the recognition of the allness of God's creation described in the first chapter of Genesis, and the nothingness of the Adam and Eve myth. I had to realize that I was not an Eve being led around by a loving Adam.

Our beloved Leader, Mrs. Eddy, tells us in *Science and Health* (p. 141): "More than profession is requisite for Christian demonstration. Few understand or adhere to Jesus' divine precepts for living and healing. Why? Because his precepts require the disciple to cut off the right hand and pluck out the right eye,—that is, to set aside even the most cherished beliefs and practices, to leave all for Christ." I had to learn, as Christ Jesus said (John 6:63), that "it is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing," and that I could do nothing by myself. I needed God's help and guidance. Mrs. Eddy says (*Science and Health*, p. 495), "Study thoroughly the letter and imbibe the spirit." I had fulfilled the first part—studied "thoroughly the letter"—and now I had to "imbibe the spirit." Of course, this learning process is still going on. The giving up of cherished beliefs at first made Christian Science seem hard to me, but I am learning that the quickening of the spirit is sublime! My healing of the physical disorders came with the recognition of my true nature as a spiritual idea of God.

In giving up "cherished beliefs and practices" I overcame in some degree resentment, pride, envy, self-will, criticism, rigidity, and a false sense of responsibility, and have learned to express more humility, flexibility, and love. I am grateful to God for the

courage, strength, and perseverance necessary to gain this enlightenment, and for the spiritual awakening that is constantly going on.

(Mrs.) ELSA F. PARKS
Zephyrhills, Florida



Mrs. Eddy states, in reply to the question "How would you define Christian Science?" in her book *Rudimental Divine Science* (p. 1), "As the law of God, the law of good, interpreting and demonstrating the divine Principle and rule of universal harmony."

My acknowledgment of this law, several years ago, lifted me out of a desperate physical problem and brought me freedom. I had apparently been stricken with a heart attack. It was so severe that it incapacitated me. I was thousands of miles from home. With the prayerful support of a Christian Science practitioner, I made the trip home. It was necessary for me to be carried in a wheelchair onto the plane. Pain and fear engulfed me. But I was a lifelong Christian Scientist, and I was praying earnestly.

At home, I had the sole responsibility for my young child and for myself. Steadfastly I refuted the fearful symptoms of the physical senses, pain and weakness and inability to eat, sleep, or walk. Steadfastly I claimed my present perfection and God-given dominion over the body. I saw that a false sense of responsibility was the crux of the problem. When unable to sleep, I learned to handle fear and pain by affirming the allness of divine Love, leaning on God, recognizing Him as the loving Father-Mother of both the child and me.

I learned to commune with divine Love during the night, and each morning I arose stronger. Each day I expected only good and tried to be more active, thanking God for every evidence of progress. I knew that nothing could keep me from being "about my Father's business," to use Christ Jesus' words (Luke 2:49). I didn't doubt that reliance upon Christian Science would bring me out of the shadow into the bright sunlight of Truth.

I denied the material so-called laws that I could suffer aftereffects of the illness, and that recovery would take a long time. Instead I invoked God's law—Christian Science—as supreme in my case. This law of harmony doesn't recognize pain, weakness, or inactivity, and neither can one who relies on this law. I affirmed that my true being had not been attacked by disease and that there could be no effect of something that had never actually happened. I acknowledged the oneness of harmony, and refused to admit time as a factor in the healing I felt was taking place.

I saw the vital importance of putting God first in all my thoughts, basing all action on my indestructible relationship to God as His expression. I learned to trust God more and love Him better, to feel His presence and His power.

The result was healing! Within a few weeks I was able to return to my office and resume my normal activity. I'll never forget the Sunday when, with heart bursting with gratitude and love for God, I climbed the stairway to attend church. As I joined in singing, I felt deep appreciation of Mary Baker Eddy for her gift of Christian Science, which explains the way Christ Jesus healed. Never before had I felt so close to God, so imbued with the Christ-spirit, so filled with love and gratitude. My acceptance of God's law as supreme had refuted all material so-called law and had brought demonstration of perfect health into my life. Such healing is the Christly touch, which brings regeneration, purification, and spiritualization to consciousness. And demonstrating Christian Science is pure joy!

(Mrs.) HARRIETTE MELDRIM HILL
Boca Raton, Florida



[Original in Spanish]

I learned of Christian Science in the middle of 1973, a few days before my marriage. I had always searched for intelligent answers to all the questions I frequently asked myself about God, man, and the universe. My search had led to a good deal of reading, but the results were not very positive. This Science,

which was the best of wedding presents, was the light that opened to me the door of spiritual understanding I had hoped to enter.

During the intervening years, the study of the Bible from this new, spiritual approach, and of *Science and Health* by Mrs. Eddy, has been correcting, cleansing, and transforming my thought with the purifying waters of truth. Along a path that has not always been easily or rapidly traversed, many concepts I had accepted as true and definitive about myself had to yield to diviner conceptions that always reassure us and tell us of our real, spiritual perfection.

I have immense gratitude today for the specific healing of sadness and of the fear of death. When Christian Science came into my life, I was suffering from these depressing feelings, manifested in sorrow over an illness my mother had and over discordant personal relations, and intense fear that I would be left without my mother. As I advanced in my understanding of these new teachings and strove to apply them, supported by the prayer of a Christian Science practitioner, I began to feel the freedom that comes with recognition of the spiritual reality of creation.

Acknowledgment of God as the only Father-Mother of all His children was very important, as was an understanding that I was in reality a complete, spiritual creation, possessing all right ideas from God. Realizing this, I knew I would be able to face every situation successfully. At no time was I, or had I been, a mortal who found herself alone, struggling, through precarious personal means, with adversity, and lacking guidance or protection. Gradually, in the degree that I understood and yielded to these truths, happiness, serenity, and a greater desire to live replaced the heavy burden of personal responsibility. When I obtained a more spiritual concept of freedom, the personal relations became more harmonious.

I can say with gratitude that in later years when my mother passed on I was so imbued with the joyful feeling of divine tenderness and love embracing my whole being, that I was free from dwelling on the human circumstances. I was able to feel and comprehend something of the great reality stated by

Mrs. Eddy in *Science and Health*, where she writes of “divine Principle, Love, underlying, overlying, and encompassing all true being.” The paragraph opens (p. 496), “We all must learn that Life is God.” The concluding sentence of the paragraph is: “Hold perpetually this thought,—that it is the spiritual idea, the Holy Ghost and Christ, which enables you to demonstrate, with scientific certainty, the rule of healing, based upon its divine Principle, Love, underlying, overlying, and encompassing all true being.”

I must add that the results of this healing have been so complete and permanent that now when I think of my mother I do so with firm and serene confidence in her joyful life in God; I know that “with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light” (Ps. 36:9).

I am grateful to those who helped me walk in this path; to the person who first told me about this marvelous Truth that is Love; for Christ Jesus, who foretold the coming of the Comforter, divine Science, set forth in *Science and Health*; and for Mrs. Eddy, who received the teaching and was able to demonstrate it. I am thankful also for all Christian Science literature, especially *The Herald of Christian Science*, Spanish Edition.

(Mrs.) GRACIELA BURGOS DE TOSOLINI
Santa Fe, Argentina



I had been wondering what God was, and what the relationship was between God and man. The first clear answer came when I lived with a family of Christian Scientists. To come to know that man in his perfection, as reflection of God, declares the presence of God is one of many satisfying and provable answers that the study of Christian Science has since brought me.

An early healing I recall was of an eye infection, possibly from an insect bite. The eye had become swollen. I stayed home from work for one day, but because of the discomfort I couldn't settle down to study to help myself. However, I was offered Mary Baker Eddy's autobiography, *Retrospection and Introspection*. It so held my attention that I read it all day. Next day, although

the picture of myself in the mirror seemed to show no improvement, I felt I was well enough to work and should return to the office. I was afraid my office colleagues would chide me for not doing anything medically about the condition, since they knew I was a Christian Scientist. On my way to work I reasoned that sight is a spiritual faculty. It is not possible to see error. Any condition that cannot be the outcome of divine Love I had learned to call error. I could expect others to see me through spiritual sense, to see me as I really am, as God has created me. My office friends greeted me with, "Isn't it a lot better!" Later that morning the eye was quite normal.

Once I was severely ill with enteritis. A Christian Science practitioner visited me, gave me courage with her statements of spiritual truth, and calmed my fear. Physical release came almost immediately, and two days later I was completely well.

Some weeks after this I became filled with concern as I seemed again to be manifesting similar symptoms. In this state I turned to God with the utmost longing, and words came to me from *Science and Health* by Mrs. Eddy, although I didn't know I knew them (p. 256): "Love, the divine Principle, is the Father and Mother of the universe, including man." As I reached the word "man," I felt caught up to God, completely oblivious of my body. This uplift lasted only a few moments, but when I again became aware of my surroundings a warm glow permeated my being, and I seemed to walk on air. I was joyous and well. The discord has not recurred in the thirty-two years since then.

A practitioner pointed out to me, almost as a contemplative comment, that in the book of Revelation in the Bible is shown the way to overcome error, or evil, and that evil *must* be overcome. This was just what I needed to make the effort to heal a difficulty I had with pains and weakness. My dear husband had died some months before, and the aggressive suggestion was that I would be afflicted with the same malady. I was inspired by the conviction "The Christ is here" (*Christian Science Hymnal*, No. 202) and had no more trouble with those symptoms, or with fear. I have also been helped by understanding that death is an error of belief just as is dishonesty or fear, and how we deal with each belief depends on what we know and is uniquely and indi-

vidually our own demonstration. At every step, on whatever path we may be, God is caring and guiding and sustaining.

I am so grateful for the spiritual truths revealed through the Bible and Mrs. Eddy's writings, and for students who share their inspiration through the publications of The Christian Science Publishing Society. I find the compassionate life of Christ Jesus a continuing superb inspiration. And the tenderness and vigor of Mrs. Eddy's leadership in the revelation and establishment of Christian Science impel my devotion to this Cause for mankind, as well as my unending appreciation. The leavening thought is also seen in the grand unselfish deeds of people throughout the world, and I praise God for this expression of His goodness.

(MRS.) BARBARA D. MILLS
Eastleigh, Hampshire, England



Christian Science has always been my way of life but has meant more to me since I have been living on my own away from home. Before graduating from college with a teaching credential, I began to look for a job. The picture was bleak and the encouragement minimal.

I decided it was time for me to claim my heritage as God's child, fully employed expressing His qualities. I endeavored to be more humble, patient, and willing to be led by God.

I decided to move to a different part of the country. There were no specific job prospects, but the move seemed right and was very harmonious.

Many opportunities for temporary work—both teaching and other work—opened up as I consistently denied the suggestions of hopelessness and limited openings. I realized that God's law of good was always providing me with every idea I needed and would continue to do so.

Stiffness and pain in my feet and joints were healed with the prayerful help of a Christian Science practitioner. I realized I was not obstructed in walking in the way God directs. His way is clear, and He was enabling me to walk in it.

Shortly after this healing, I gained a clear glimpse of myself as God made me—spiritually employed and joyous. I felt released from pressure or responsibility in finding a job and left it in God's hands. Very soon after this, I was called by the personnel office of the education department in my county. I was told that funds had become available to hire a few teachers with no teaching experience and no current job besides substituting. I qualified and was soon employed for the rest of the school year.

At the end of the year, the funding stopped, and many teachers at that school were released. I felt no anxiety but was willing to trust God completely. A Bible verse that helped me at this time states (Ex. 23:20): "Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared."

Interesting and rewarding work kept me busy all summer. I also had a number of opportunities to help several members of my branch church, which blessed both them and me.

As the school year approached, I steadfastly claimed my rights of dominion, supply, and unselfish activity. I knew that if teaching were my right field, everything in my situation would come into line: the right school, principal, teachers, grade, and children.

I researched *will*, *willingness*, and *yield* in the Concordances to the Bible and Mrs. Eddy's works and studied these references, trying to give up any human will for God's will.

After I accepted an aiding job in a school and worked in it for two weeks, the principal arranged an interview for me at another school for an unexpected opening.

I was hired for the job the next day. The school, teachers, and principal, and my attitudes toward teaching, are in perfect harmony. Every aspect of the job is better than I had ever imagined.

For the Christian Science way of life I am very thankful.

(Miss) MARGARET ANNE PETO
Vienna, Virginia

It is a joy to verify my daughter's testimony. I witnessed all the conditions she describes and was most grateful to see

the inspiration that came to her and the healings that followed.

God's law of harmony has been revealed to me in many instances of healing, guidance, protection, and I have found needs supplied through the study and demonstration of Christian Science. I join with my daughter in gratitude to God for the blessings of attending the Christian Science Sunday School, for branch church and Mother Church membership, and class instruction.

(Mrs.) DOROTHY LOUDON PETO
Aurora, Illinois



At the age of seven I was adopted by a couple who were students of Christian Science. This was my first contact with this Science. (I had been in an orphanage in England prior to my adoption.) I will always be grateful to these consecrated students for bringing me up in a home and background of Christian Science. Soon after I joined them I was quickly healed of measles. Schooling was also a problem to be faced at this time. I did not know my alphabet, nor was I able to read or write at eight years of age. Through my parents' clear realization that Mind is the source of intelligence, and that I, as an idea of God, reflected intelligence, I was able to cope with the work and reach the standard for my age-group.

After schooling it became evident that I was suited to an outdoor life. I emigrated to Australia at the age of sixteen. I worked on sheep and cattle stations and dairy farms. However, worldly things overtook me, and I began smoking and drinking. It was not until I came back to England a few years later that I became dissatisfied with worldly ways and started to attend a Church of Christ, Scientist, again. Soon, with the support of my parents, I was able to overcome the smoking and drinking habits. I saw clearly, through my study of *Science and Health* by Mrs. Eddy, that man is the image of God and reflects Life, Truth, and Love. Seeing that in my real being as God's idea I reflect Him, I felt satisfied. Drinking and smoking left me, and I have had no desire for them since.

While in England at that time, I met the girl who was to become my wife, and who is now also a student of Christian Science. We have been blessed with two children, a girl and a boy, who have attended Christian Science Sunday School since they were very young. Through relying on Christian Science many healings have occurred—including a fractured foot bone, a dislocated kneecap, fevers, and so-called childhood diseases.

I have found these Bible verses very comforting and reassuring (Prov. 3:5, 6): “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.” Christian Science has brought me many blessings, and I give thanks to God.

Our family felt a need to sell our dairy farm, as we could hardly keep up with the running costs. This was when the price of butterfat was at an all-time low, with no immediate prospects for improvement. However, divine Love was taking care of us. We were willing to let God take full charge of the situation, and not let human will or pressure take over. The income from my wife’s part-time job was keeping our immediate expenses covered, and we were just grateful to go forward a day at a time.

After we really let go of that feeling of pressure, the thought came to expect a full value rather than the low sum we had been willing to accept. The very next day a prospective buyer came to look at the farm (the first to come in months). He immediately gave us a deposit, and later he bought the place from us at the full price. To us this was a wonderful proof of those inspiring words in *Science and Health* (p. 494): “Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need.” We can see proof of this truth when we let go of mortal selfhood and recognize the operation of the Christ, Truth, in consciousness.

Church activities have brought to my life an understanding of Christly love as exemplified by Christ Jesus.

I will always be grateful to those who have patiently encouraged me to stick with Christian Science. By so doing I have found true happiness, peace, and harmony, which are really inherent in man and forever with him as the expression of Love.

CORNELIUS IAN PARKYN
South Yarra, Victoria, Australia

Christian Science Lectures



Everyone is cordially invited to these free lectures.

‡ Indicates Children's Room available during lectures.

* If details such as time, place, title, or child care facilities are missing from a church's listing, please see local publicity.

UNITED STATES

(Week of December 10 to 16,
and an earlier date)

CALIFORNIA—Beverly Hills: Church, 142 S. Rexford Dr., 12:10 p.m., Tues., Dec. 12.‡ "Reality: Matter or Mind?" (Ferris)

Laguna Beach: Church, 635 High Dr., 8 p.m., Thurs., Dec. 14.‡ "The Language of Soul" (Clarke)

Livermore: Church, 1772 Third, 11 a.m., Sat., Dec. 16.‡ "Claim Your Real Inheritance" (Tuttle)

Orange: Church, 1424 E. Walnut Ave., 3 p.m., Sun., Dec. 10.‡ "The Language of Soul" (Clarke)

Pacific Grove: Church, Fountain and Central Aves., 3 p.m., Sun., Dec. 10.‡ "Claim Your Real Inheritance" (Tuttle)

Rolling Hills Estates: High School, 27118 Silver Spur Rd., 8 p.m., Mon., Dec. 11.‡ "The Touch of Spirit" (Clarke)

San Diego (joint lecture): Valley Circle Theatre, 5040 Mission Center Rd., 11 a.m., Sat., Dec. 16.‡ "The Touch of Spirit" (Clarke)

FLORIDA—Boca Raton: Great Hall, Boca Raton Hotel and Club, Camino Real, 4 p.m., Sun., Dec. 10. "Is Your Heart on Fire?" (Rogers)

Miami (First): Church, Biscayne Blvd. and 19th St., 3 p.m., Sun., Dec. 10.‡ Spanish translation 4:30 p.m. "Quit Conspiring Against Yourself!" (Leever)

IOWA—Des Moines (First): Tues., Dec. 12. (Mondino)*

MASSACHUSETTS—Boston (The First Church of Christ, Scientist): The Mother Church Extension, Christian Science Center, Massachusetts and Huntington Aves., 3 p.m., Sun., Dec. 10.‡ "Let My People Go" (White)

MISSOURI—St. Louis (joint lecture): Eighth Church of Christ, Scientist, Skinker and Wydown, 3 p.m., Sun., Dec. 10.‡ "Life Without Lack" (Mondino)

NEW YORK—New York (Eighth): Church, 103 E. 77th, 8 p.m., Tues., Dec. 12.‡ "Let My People Go" (White)

New York (Tenth): Church, 171 Macdougall St., 3 p.m., Sun., Dec. 10.‡ "Diana or Christ?" (Aghamalian)

Port Washington: Church, 2 Beacon Hill Rd., 8:30 p.m., Mon., Dec. 11.‡ "Let My People Go" (White)

OREGON—Portland (Sixth): Church, 1331 S.W. Park Ave., 3 p.m., Sun., Dec. 10.‡ "Something to Depend On" (Jenks)

TEXAS—Amarillo: 8 p.m., Thurs., Dec. 14.‡ "See It Like It Is" (Houston)*

Baytown: Church, Michigan St., 8 p.m., Tues., Dec. 5.‡ "See It Like It Is" (Houston)

Corpus Christi (First): Harbor Playhouse, 1801 N. Water St., 3 p.m., Sun., Dec. 10.‡ "Dare to Care" (Houston)

Dallas (First): Church, 1508 Cadiz St. and Brower, 3 p.m., Sun., Dec. 10.‡ "You're Someone Worth Knowing" (Pickett)

Del Rio: Church, 320 Griner, 7:30 p.m., Tues., Dec. 12.‡ "See It Like It Is" (Houston)

Denton: Church, 402 Texas St., 8 p.m., Tues., Dec. 12.‡ "Your Right to Be Right" (Pickett)

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE LECTURES

TEXAS (continued)

Kingsville: Church, 120 S. 11th, 8 p.m.,

Mon., Dec. 11.‡ "See It Like It Is"

(Houston)

Tyler: Church, 106 E. Second St., 8 p.m.,

Fri., Dec. 15.‡ "Individualizing God's Power"

(Pickett)

WASHINGTON—Bellingham: Sat., Dec. 16.‡
(Driver)*

Mount Vernon: Hillcrest Park Lodge,
Hillcrest Pkwy., 3 p.m., Sun., Dec. 10.‡

"A New View of Prophecy"

(Thorneloe)

[These lectures are given by members of the Board of Lectureship of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.]

A CONTINUING INVITATION

Members of The Mother Church are invited to write articles and poems for the periodicals. Convincing testimonies of healing are also welcomed from members, as well as from those who have not yet joined The Mother Church.

Specific guidelines may be obtained by writing The Christian Science Publishing Society, Journal, Sentinel, and Herald Editorial Department, One Norway Street, Boston, MA, U.S.A. 02115. Manuscripts should be sent to the same address.

All contributions accepted for publication become the sole property of The Christian Science Publishing Society.

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Officers of branch churches and individuals who have occasion to correspond with The Christian Science Board of Directors, with the Clerk and the Treasurer of The Mother Church, and with the heads of departments of The Mother Church Offices are requested to *place their complete addresses on their letters and to write their signatures plainly*. Your cooperation will be appreciated. General mail address for The Mother Church and its administrative offices is: The First Church of Christ, Scientist, Christian Science Center, Boston, MA, U.S.A. 02115. Telephone: 262-2300 (area code 617). Cable: Church, Boston.

“GOOD FOR US!” NEW CASSETTE FOR CHILDREN 9-12

It's natural for a child to heal! This message comes through unmistakably on a new cassette entitled "Good for us!" The recording features youngsters reading first-person accounts of healing—authentic instances of overcoming shyness, injury, shoplifting, sickness, family inharmony. Woven among these accounts are hymns sung from the *Christian Science Hymnal* by Sunday School children. A companion pamphlet completes the package by providing texts of hymns and citations used on the cassette.

The down-to-earth directness of "Good for us!" has definite appeal for children learning to heal. And adults will respond to these sincere and simple accounts, too. This cassette/pamphlet package can be purchased for \$3.95 at most Christian Science Reading Rooms or may be ordered directly from The Christian Science Publishing Society, One Norway Street, Boston, MA, U.S.A. 02115.

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1875-1882 *Lynn, Massachusetts*—12 Broad Street, where Mrs. Eddy completed her manuscript for *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. It was while living here that Mrs. Eddy initiated many foundational steps in establishing the Christian Science movement. These include the formation of the Christian Scientist Association; the Church of Christ, Scientist; the Massachusetts Metaphysical College. Here also Mrs. Eddy was ordained as Pastor of her Church.

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